UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE
International Program Office
1305 East West Highway, SSMC4, N/IP
Silver Spring, MD 20910

June 16, 1999

Dear Colleague:

On behalf of the organizers, I am pleased to invite your participation in the international training workshop on Integrated Coastal Management and the Roles of Stakeholders in Marine Protected Areas, July 24-26, 1999. The workshop will be held just prior to the tenth Coastal Zone Conference on Coastal and Ocean Management (CZ99) in San Diego, California, USA (July 26-30, 1999)..

The major goal of this training workshop is for participants, primarily protected areas practitioners from both developing and industrialized nations to share information and lessons on marine protected areas and stakeholder involvement in the context of integrated coastal management (ICM).

The workshop is being co-sponsored by a number of international organizations, U.S. federal agencies and universities. Sponsors include the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO), the Coastal Resources Center at the University of Rhode Island/USAID, the Tijuana National Estuarine Research Reserve, the Chula Vista Nature Center, the NAFTA/Commission for Environmental Cooperation, the Coastal States Organization, NOAA's Staff Office for International Programs of the U.S. National Ocean Service, and others. Attendance at CZ99 is considered a complement to the training experience because of the valuable exposure to related topics and the opportunities for professional networking. The working language for both events is English.

Transportation from the airport to the hotel will be provided on July 23 and 24 and again on July 30 from the hotel to the airport. To take advantage of this offer you need to send your full flight information to Steve Morrison (Smorrison@ocean.nos.noaa.gov) or fax 301-713-4263. If there are revisions in arrival times other than what you provide to us or if arrival is after 10PM, this service is not guaranteed. Cloud Nine shuttle service also provides transportation to and from the airport and hotel.

If a visa is required to enter the U.S., please apply for one as soon as possible. It is recommended that a copy of this invitation letter be submitted to the U.S. embassy to help expedite the visa process. If additional assistance is required, at your earliest convenience, please provide us with the contact name, fax, phone numbers and email address of the contact person at the U.S. embassy to whom contact can be made on your behalf.

The workshop is designed to permit maximum participation. In particular, we wish to provide the participants an opportunity to discuss progress achieved in protected

area management, lessons learned and impediments to progress experienced within their own countries.

Please note the workshop format is very interactive and participatory. No formal country presentations are necessary or required due to time constraints. However, there will be plenty of opportunity to share national experience in the discussions. For confirmations of attendance, please contact Lynne Mersfelder at the following (Lmersfelder@ocean.nos.noaa.gov) or at the address below:

NOAA/National Ocean Service
1305 East West Highway, #13319, N/IPO
Silver Spring, MD 20910   USA
Phone: 301-713-3078 ext. 172
Fax: 301-713-4263

The workshop registration form, agenda and various updates and are available on the workshop web site at www.nos.noaa.gov/ipo/projects/icm_workshop and the CZ99 web site http://www.czconference.org is where the CZ99 conference information is located. Additional information on the workshop will be forwarded to you as appropriate. I look forward to meeting you in San Diego, California this summer.

Sincerely,

Lynne Mersfelder
CZ99 International Liaison,
International Workshop Coordinator, and,
International Affairs Specialist
NOAA/NOS International Program Office